

**THE LISTENING EAR**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT  
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

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**CHARITY NUMBER**

1095964

**PRINCIPAL OFFICE**

127 - 129 Bargates  
Christchurch  
Dorset  
BH23 1QH

**TRUSTEES**

W Weldon  
K Stankiewicz-Lammin  
J Humphreys  
L Russell

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Phillip J Polden FCCA  
Brett Pittwood  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Suite 8 Bourne Gate  
25 Bourne Valley Road  
Poole  
Dorset  
BH12 1DY

**BANKERS**

Barclays Bank plc  
61 Old Christchurch Road  
Bournemouth  
Dorset  
BH1 1ER

**Charity Number 1095964**

**THE LISTENING EAR**

**CHAIRPERSON'S ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

CHARITY NUMBER : 1095964

PRINCIPAL OFFICE : 127-129 Bargates, Christchurch BH23 1QH

TRUSTEES:, W. Lee Weldon, Kasia Stankiewicz-Lammin, Jonathan Humphreys, Layla Russell

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: Phillip Polden FCCA Brett Pittwood Chartered Certified Accountants Suite 8, Bourne Gate, 25 Bourne Valley Road, Poole, Dorset BH12 1DY

BANKERS: Barclays Bank plc, 61 Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH1 1ER

The Listening Ear - Annual Chairperson's Report

Date: 14 April 2024

Charity No: 1095964

Covering period: 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

For over 20 years, The Listening Ear has continued to provide vital counselling services for children and young people in the areas of Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole with needs growing every year.

During this financial year, The Listening Ear provided 254 counselling packages working within 45 local primary, secondary, and special schools. The presenting issues continue to vary, however, the charity has seen a steady increase in referrals for children who have experienced trauma and children who are neurodiverse.

Due to current economic uncertainty and the impact of the cost-of-living crisis, funding remains the biggest challenge for the charity. We are mindful that there is a tendency for more funding going into larger organisations, nevertheless efforts are made to support our fundraising avenues. Securing grants, regular donations and fundraising events such The Cheese & Chili festival, Family Fun Day as well as involvement with local Rotary groups have all helped to increase awareness as well as income for the charity. Moving forwards, the objective remains securing a

steady stream of funding; this continues to be the main challenge facing the charity.

Despite the financial challenges, The Listening Ear continues to strive for professional excellence and is proud to have been recognised with a number of accolades in 2023-24 including:

- Specialist Counselling Service 2023-24 Prestige Awards (South England) for the 3rd consecutive year
- Children's Charity of the Year-2024 E2 Media Awards of Excellence
- Best Children's Charity AI Non-profit Organisation Award

Through the course of the year the team of four trustees; Chairperson - Kasia Stankiewicz-Lammin, Secretary - Lee Weldon, Treasurer - Jonathan Humphreys, as well as Layla Russell have been supporting TLE. The board continues to be committed to helping the charity grow and evolve in order to support the high demand for mental health support for young people.

In addition to the work of the Board of Trustees, Anita Weldon continues in the role of Charity Director in charge of the day to day running of the charity alongside a small administration staff.

The Listening Ear remains committed to supporting young people in the community being mindful of their needs and the importance of mental health.

On behalf of The Listening Ear Kasia Stankiewicz-Lammin - Chairperson

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES  
ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF  
THE LISTENING EAR**

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I report on the financial statements of The Listening Ear for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet and related notes on pages 4 to 6. These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out therein.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Phillip J Polden FCCA  
Chartered Certified Accountant  
Brett Pittwood  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Suite 8 Bourne Gate  
25 Bourne Valley Road  
Poole  
Dorset  
BH12 1DY

22 January 2025

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Incoming resources from charitable activities:</b>		
Counselling services	64,058	108,240
Grants received	13,655	6,000
Donations	8,357	6,936
Fundraising events income	5,897	8,217
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	91,967	129,393
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds:</b>		
Bank deposit account interest	95	16
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	92,062	129,409
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
<b>Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects:</b>		
Counsellors' services	60,659	95,991
Senior counsellor	352	500
Training and supervision costs	10,075	9,390
Security checks	372	364
Events and fundraising expenses	1,447	1,917
<b>Governance costs:</b>		
Charity director	10,603	11,520
Administrators	10,878	8,180
Stationery, postage and office expenses	587	192
Repairs and renewals	190	754
Telephone and internet	868	439
Insurance	503	484
Rent and storage	12,310	-
Room hire	-	201
Water and electricity	1,566	699
Car parking permits	1,393	-
Accountancy	1,020	1,110
Legal and professional fees	-	2,680
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	112,823	134,421
<b>NET OUTGOING RESOURCES</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£(20,761)	£(5,012)

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

	Note	2024	2023
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	4	9,425	4,600
Property - rent deposit		1,000	1,000
Bank current account		23,541	60,001
Bank deposit account		10,266	7,112
		<u>£44,232</u>	<u>£72,713</u>
<b>CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>			
Creditors and accruals	5	7,905	15,625
		<u>£7,905</u>	<u>£15,625</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>36,327</u>	<u>57,088</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>£36,327</u>	<u>£57,088</u>
<b>RESERVES</b>			
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>			
Surplus brought forward		57,088	62,100
Deficit for the year		(20,761)	(5,012)
		<u>£36,327</u>	<u>£57,088</u>

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 21 January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

**K Stankiewicz-Lammin**  
**Chairperson**

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### a) Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and the Charities Acts. They follow the recommendations in 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice' issued in 2005, and comply with Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2005 issued under the Charities Act 1993.

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS1 from the requirement to produce a cashflow statement because it is a small charity.

##### b) Incoming resources

All income apart from donations is included in full in the financial statements when receivable. Donations are included when received.

##### c) Resources expended

Resources expended, including irrecoverable VAT, are recognised in the year in which they are incurred.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with the administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

#### 2. TRUSTEES' EMOLUMENTS

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them have received remuneration during the year. No expenses have been reimbursed to the trustees during the year.

#### 3. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Accountancy fees includes a provision of £1,020 (2023 = £1,110) in respect of the preparation and the independent examination of these financial statements. No other financial services were provided by the independent examiner.

4. DEBTORS	2024	2023
Unpaid invoices for counselling services provided	£9,425	£4,600
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5. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS		
Counsellors' services	5,355	11,370
Senior counsellor	55	-
Charity Director	800	1,065
Administrator	495	1,000
Supervision costs	-	920
Water and electricity	180	140
Office supplies	-	20
Accountancy and independent examination fees	1,020	1,110
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£7,905	£15,625
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